

Creating a love of learning for LIFE!

Head Teacher: Mrs Nicky Bridges
Keyworth Road, Gedling, Nottingham, NG4 4JD
0115 955 3440
Email: office@stanhope.notts.sch.uk



WE 4.9.2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been fantastic to see children back at school this week and thank you for your support in making sure that children look incredibly smart and ready for the Autumn Term. Children have been excited to see the physical changes which have taken place over the summer and we have started the year talking lots about our school values (Be Kind, Be Safe, Be your Best Self!) and expectations and will be focused this year on building pride in our school environment and in our learning outcomes.

Communication:

This weekly news will focus on clarity on lots of the organisation of the school day. Usually our weekly newsletter will celebrate what has gone on during the week at school and have key reminders and updates for parents. A 2026-2027 key dates for parents will follow and termly key dates then appear on this weekly newsletter and on our dojo calendar.

Communication to parents from the office will come through Arbor via email. Teachers may also email you via Arbor. As Headteacher, I will email parents through Arbor and you are always welcome to contact me if you need to on: nbridges@stanhope.notts.sch.uk



Dojo is used by teachers to keep you up to date with learning and classroom updates and for any urgent messages e.g. snow closure.

Drop off and Collection:

A reminder of drop and collection arrangements :



X3 gates are open every morning between 8:40—8:50am and every afternoon between 3:10—3:20 on Shalford Road (1) / Keyworth Road (2) and Rutland Road (3).

We have staff on these gates during these times to support a positive welcome and start to the school day and promote safety across our site.

Parents and children are able to walk around the site during these times (we are hoping work will be complete on our EYFS area by Monday 7th) so older siblings can walk up the path independently to upper school if parents are dropping younger children at lower school.

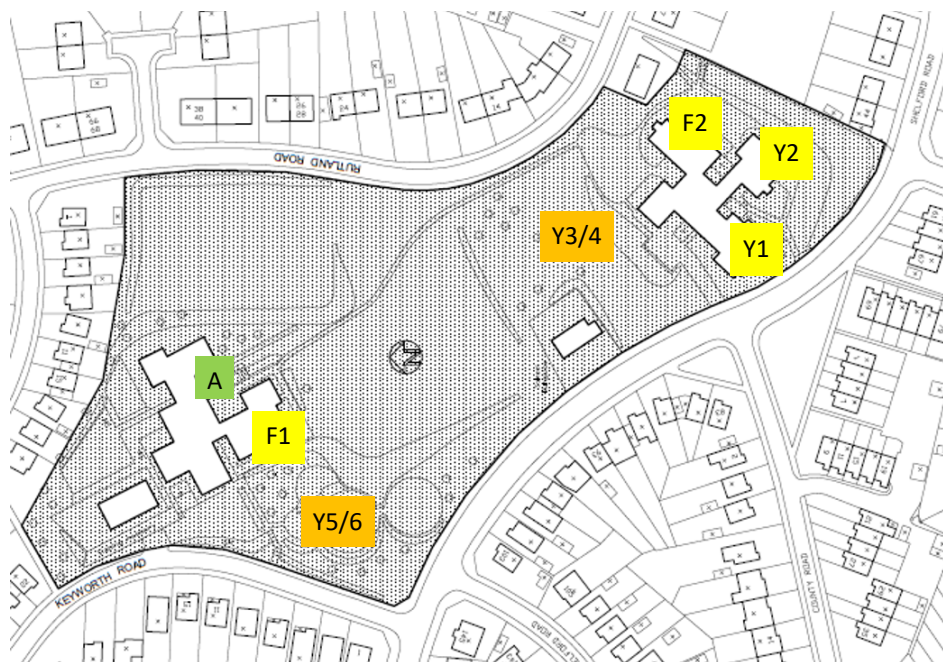
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Nursery (F1) drop and collect from the Nursery Door at Upper School.

Reception (F2) drop and collect from the Reception door (from Monday 7th Sept due to works).

Year 1 drop and collect from the Year 1 door.

Year 2 drop and collect from the Year 2 door.

Year 3 and 4 children enter through the Upper School door at the end of the path (A) and are collected by parents from the lower school playground.

Year 5 and 6 children enter through the Upper School door at the end of the path (A) or the main entrance and are collected by parents from the upper school playground.

Children in Year 5 and 6:

Every [child and family situation is different](#) but if you are happy for your child to walk independently to and from school, you will need to confirm permission on Arbor / via the school office. Only children walking independently to and from school are permitted to bring a mobile phone to school and they will put these immediately in their classroom mobile phone box. Children know not to use their mobile phones as they walk around on school site.

Children in Year 5 and 6 are able to walk down to meet a parent at a younger siblings classroom external door in lower school. If you would like your child to do this—let your child's class teacher know.

Update on Allergy Management



You may be aware there is new guidance for schools and catering teams in managing children with known allergies. [Our policy is here](#). If your child has a known allergy, they will have an Individual Health Care Plan and also will now have an Allergy Action Plan. Children with known allergies will be asked to wear a purple band at lunchtime so that catering staff are aware when serving. Any questions, please contact Mrs Vernon in the school office.

Our menus can be found [on our website here](#).

Information on [packing a healthy lunchbox can be found here](#) and we ask that parents do not send in children with nuts as there are children who have nut allergies in our school.

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PE Kit Days



As we have done in the past, children are able to come into school in their PE kits on PE days. We are lucky that we continue to have Next Level Sports Specialist Mr Sanders in on a Tuesday and Wednesday to lead one of our x2 PE weekly sessions. The DfE is removing Sports Premium Funding this year so there will not be Stanhope PE tops handed out “for free” as there was last year. Parents are still able to buy these tops from Just Schoolwear or **can send their child in white or navy blue plain PE tops instead.**

PE days across the school are listed below. (Nursery children are not expected to wear a PE kit in the week)

	PE DAYS to wear PE kit to school	
RECEPTION	Come in school uniform every day and bring in a PE kit for a Thursday PE lesson	
YEAR 1	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS
YEAR 2	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS
YEAR 3	TUESDAYS	FRIDAYS
YEAR 4	TUESDAYS	FRIDAYS
YEAR 5	MONDAYS	WEDNESDAYS
YEAR 6	TUESDAYS	THURSDAYS

Updates to children eligible for Free School Meals

Office staff emailed parents with information about changes to FSM entitlement: “Please be aware that from September 2026 the government will introduce substantial changes to the free school meal (FSM) entitlement. Under the new national criteria, all families in receipt of Universal Credit will qualify for free school meals, meaning more pupils will be eligible.

Targeted FSM—Who qualifies: Pupils in households receiving Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of £7400 or less. **Expanded FSM**: Who qualifies: A broader category for pupils in households receiving Universal Credit who earn above £7400 per year (no upper income limit).

Universal free School Meals (UFSM)

Who qualifies: All pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 in state-funded schools, regardless of family income or benefits.

[You can apply for FSM now and check your eligibility.](#) Ask the office if you need any support.

Rocksteady: We still do offer places for children to attend Rocksteady with our tutor Elliott on a Friday morning. If you are interested—[do have a look at the following link.](#) We also have a few bursary places for Rocksteady which will be allocated annually to pupils in receipt of PP.



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Attendance

As a school we will continue to focus on exceptional attendance as this is essential for children to make the best progress. As a whole school, we have a target for the year of **97%**.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

At and Above School Attendance Target	97% +
Below Target and Attendance causing concern	95% -
Serious Attendance Concern: Persistent Absence	90%-

Whole School Target 2026-27	97%
Actual Whole School 25-26 Attendance	94.83%
National Whole School 25-26 Attendance	94.69%

We share class attendance weekly and the winning class for attendance are recognised with additional playtime. Children who improve their attendance are recognised by Mrs Vernon (our Attendance Lead). If your child's attendance drops—we will be in touch and will want to support you so that your child is able to be in school so they are able to be well supported in their learning and make great progress.

2026—2027 Holiday and term dates [can be found here](#). Please do note that we are seeing an increase of children being absent during the Summer term with time taken for holidays. **We have no choice but to carry out fines for unauthorised holidays taken during term time.**

After School Clubs at Stanhope (Autumn Term 2026)

We are keen to run a strong enrichment offer for children across the school at Stanhope and more information about clubs will be coming out on Monday. If you are a parent who would be able to support the running of a club one night on a weekly basis from 3:15—4:15 for 10 weeks of the Autumn term (and are happy to have a DBS check), please do get in touch with Mrs Bridges on nbridges@stanhope.notts.sch.uk. Paid for wrap around cover is [provided by Jesters](#).

Community help wanted to support our drive for site maintenance!

As you know, we have a fantastic site at Stanhope and have been lucky enough to have some great improvements made over the summer holidays. We do have a large area of outdoors which requires some maintenance beyond the capacity of our site maintenance contract. There are also a couple of site projects we need some support in completing. If you are free to help between 10—2 (even for a couple of hours) do some weeding / digging / construction (with direction!) on Saturday 26th September—please do email Mrs Bridges on nbridges@stanhope.notts.sch.uk. Many thanks!

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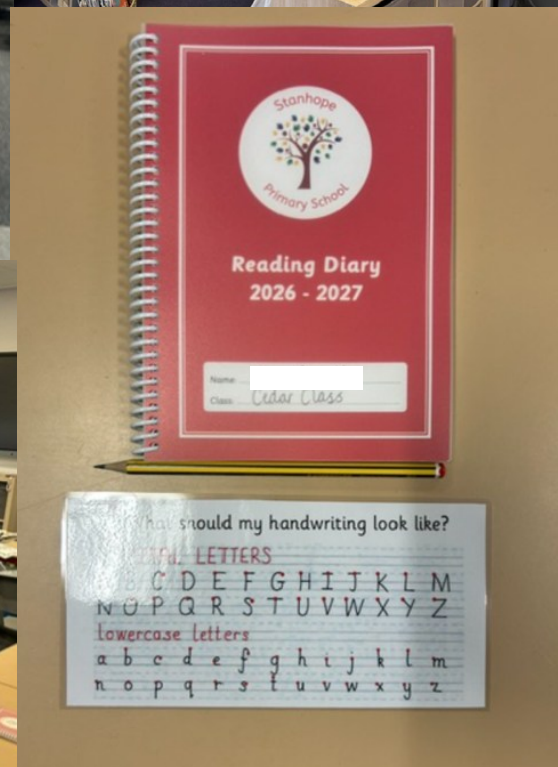
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Parent Open Afternoon—Wednesday 16th September 3:30—4:30

I hope children have enjoyed the first couple of days back at school as we remind of expectations and start our learning journey for this academic year. It has been lovely to see them all; hear about their holidays and see such a positive attitude to school and learning in classrooms. We are incredibly pleased with the improvements which will be made across our school building and will look forward to welcoming parents into their child's classroom on **Wednesday 16th September from 3:30—4:30**. Teachers will be in classrooms for this hour so that parents can move around the school looking at our renewed environments and talking with their child's class teacher.

Have a super weekend and we will look forward to getting stuck into the first full week back on Monday!

Best Wishes, Mrs Bridges

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